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OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND REPORTS

Mission

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The Office of Research and Reports is responsible for carrying out the functions assigned to CIA by National Security Council Intelligence Directive No. 15 dated 22 June 1950 with respect to coordination and production of foreign economic intelligence. These functions include:

Maintaining a continuing review of the requirements of the United States Government for foreign economic intelligence relating to the national security and of the facilities and arrangements available to meet those requirements, making from time to time such recommendations concerning improvements as may require action;

Insuring that the full economic knowledge and technical talent available in the Government is brought to bear on important issues involving national security;

Evaluating the pertinence, extent and quality of the foreign economic data available bearing on national security issues, and developing ways in which quality could be improved and gaps could be filled; and

Conducting, as a service of common concern, such foreign recommic research and producing such foreign economic intelligence as may be required (a) to supplement that produced by other agencies either in the appropriate discharge of their regular departmental missions or in fulfillment of assigned intelligence responsibilities and (b) to fulfill requests of the Intelligence Advisory Committee.

The ORR mission in regard to economic research as outlined in MSCID/15 has been interpreted to require that ORR focus on those world areas of highest priority from a national security standpoint and those least thoroughly covered by other agencies. Consequently, ORR is concentrating its research activities on the economy of the Soviet Orbit.

In addition to economic research, ORR has responsibilities for coordination and production of geographic intelligence and for map making in support of various intelligence activities. ORR is also charged with administering and coordinating the National Intelligence Survey program, a long term interagency project for the production of basic intelligence on every country in the world.

Organization

In August, 1952, ORR was reorganized under the Assistant Director with thirteen producing divisions and the Economic Intelligence Committee Secretariat, comprising three functional groups, as follows:

Economic Research

Basic economic research is undertaken by the Industrial, Materials, and Economic Services Divisions. The Strategic Division conducts specially classified research activities. The Analysis Division integrates studies made by the various other divisions and produces over-all analyses as required. In addition to basic research, the production divisions of ORR prepare economic studies and intelligence memoranda within specified terms of reference at the request of the Office of National Estimates. The Reports Division exercises control over the initiation of new research projects, and reviews completed studies and reports, effecting coordination when necessary with other ORR components or CIA offices, and publishes the finished product.

Geographic Research

Provides centrally for the production and coordination of foreign geographic and map intelligence, for photo intelligence and geographic research in support of CIA operations and intelligence production; for the preparation of intelligence maps for CIA and other IAC agencies lacking such facilities; for graphics support of CIA activities as required, and for maintaining specialized map reference services involving inter-agency coordination of collection requirements for maps on foreign areas.

Coordination Staff

Coordination Staff. Each of these Divisions, however, is engaged in coordinating interagency efforts in a specific field. The Basic Intelligence Division administers the National Intelligence Survey program. It assembles, coordinates, edits and publishes surveys which will eventually cover every country in the world. Various government agencies contribute the material for these studies. The Economic Defense Division has recently been established to coordinate intelligence concerning the international export control program which deals with proscribed items in East-West trade. This division supplies current evaluated material to the inter-agency Economic Defense Advisory Committee (EDAC) and provides the chairman for an interagency Intelligence Working Group which undertakes intelligence activities generally within the framework of economic defense. The EIC Secretariat undertakes the staff work connected with the Economic Intelligence Committee.

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Note: The Economic Intelligence Committee (EIC) was established in July, 1951 to assist and advise ORR on problems of interagency coordination in the field of foreign economic intelligence. Its specific function is to examine programs of fundamental economic research relating to the national security throughout the U. S. government, to discover gaps in intelligence coverage, and to recommend to the IAC the allocation of responsibility for specific fields of inquiry where such allocation appears appropriate.

Membership on the EIC consists of representatives from the IAC agencies. The Chairman is the Assistant Director of ORR. In addition to the regular members of the EIC there are also associate members from many other government agencies. These are called upon, however, only when matters which involve their particular spheres of activity are under consideration. Under the EIC a number of sub-committees have been formed, with similar interagency representatives, to deal with problems in specific economic fields. These sub-committees tap the various agencies at the working level, prepare studies and make recommendations to the EIC.

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